**Maintenance of NHs in Kerala**

1511. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals from the State Government of Kerala for repairing, widening, strengthening, improving surface development, maintenance and converting some roads as National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on the end of 2007; and

(c) the status of each proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) Out of 29 proposals received from State PWD of Kerala 19 proposals pertaining to development and repair works amounting to Rs. 102.73 crore have been sanctioned upto 31.12.2007. Out of the remaining, three proposals amounting to Rs. 60.49 crore have been sanctioned subsequently. Taking up of remaining proposals will depend upon the availability of funds and *inter se* priority.

As regards converting some roads as National Highways, only one proposal has been received from the State Government. However, declaration of roads as new National Highways is not the priority of the Government. The emphasis is on improvement of the existing National Highways.

**Approval of Annual Plan**

1512. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Annual Plan is generally approved in the month of June/ July of the year, and Periodical Review (PR) programme is likely to be sanctioned in the month of July/August.

(b) if so, whether Ministry is considering approval of advance renewal programme; and

(c) the action Government is taking for early approval of Annual Plan and PR programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The Annual Plan and the Periodical Renewal (PR) programme are approved only after the allocations for Plan and Non-Plan works are approved by the Government.

(b) and (c) Instructions have been issued for finalizing the prioritized list of works to be taken up under Annual Plan and PR programme in advance based on the anticipated allocation.